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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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CATTLE FEEDING SITUATION - DECEMBER 1, 1934.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt States dropped sharply in November. The feeder movement in November this year is 45 percent below the 5 year (1929-33) average and is the smallest in 16 years. The total movement from July to November is slightly less than that for the same period last year and is the smallest on record. The shipments this year from July to November are about 1,100,000 head compared with 1,120,000 last year and 1,306,000 head for the 5 year average.

The 5 Corn Belt States east of the Mississippi River received 40 percent of the total Corn Belt feeder shipments for the period from July to December while for the 5 years 1929-33 an average of 28 percent of the total Corn Belt shipments went to these States. The shipments of feeder cattle into the drought States have been the smallest on record. Due to short supplies and relatively high prices of both hay and grain it is likely that a larger proportion of feeder cattle in all Corn Belt States will be wintered on roughage than was anticipated earlier.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle from 4 markets into the Corn Belt during July - November were 5 percent larger than last year, but the number of cattle weighing 800 pounds and above was 18 percent less than last year. Shipments of cattle weighing less than 800 pounds were 10 percent above last year and shipments of cows and heifers were 14 percent above last year.

Reports from the western States indicate that the number of cattle fed this winter will be considerably smaller than last year except in California where the number fed will be slightly above last year. The greatest reductions in feeding will be in the areas where the sugar beet crop was small this year. Finishing cattle at cotton seed mills in Texas and Oklahoma is expected to be on a small scale this winter.

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